

	<p>IDEM Permit Guide: Permitting the Construction of Sewers and Wastewater Pretreatment or Treatment Facilities</p> <p>www.IN.gov/idem/guides/permit/water/wwconstructionpermits.html</p>
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Who May A Need Permit

IDEM-issued Wastewater Facility Construction Permits are required prior to building:

- < **Sewer main extensions**, but only if the construction does not otherwise have the approval of a local publicly owned sewer authority (Under 327 IAC 3-2.1-3, the applicant can gain local approval by submitting plans to the local wastewater treatment authority which meet all state water pollution control rules and are prepared by a professional engineer. The local authority is responsible for reviewing the plans and notifying IDEM of approved projects).;
- < **Lift stations** (Wastewater collection systems usually rely on gravity flow, and to further facilitate that flow sewer lines may be designed to flow to intermittent low points, where pumps “lift” the sewage to a higher elevation where it again flows by the force of gravity to the next low point.);
- < **New municipal wastewater treatment plants, or modifications** to existing facilities;
- < **New industrial wastewater treatment or pretreatment plants;** or
- < **Modifications to existing industrial wastewater pretreatment plants discharging to publicly owned treatment works**, *but only if* those pretreatment facilities are operating under an Industrial Wastewater Pretreatment Permit (IWPP) issued by IDEM.

Who may need to submit a Notice of Installation in lieu of applying for a Wastewater Facility Construction Permit:

Existing permitted industrial wastewater treatment facilities (those with a valid NPDES permit) or existing industrial pretreatment facilities (but only those with permits issued by municipalities implementing EPA-approved industrial pretreatment ordinances) do not need to obtain a Wastewater Facilities Construction Permit from IDEM prior to making modifications to their water pollution control equipment or wastewater treatment facilities. However, if those modifications entail the installation of additional equipment for the treatment or control of any new influent pollutant or to increase treatment capacity, then the facility must file a notice of installation and a design summary with IDEM within 30 days of the commencement of operation of the modified facility.

Activities which do not require a Wastewater Facilities Construction Permit:

Modifications to repair, replace, or add equipment at existing municipal or industrial water pollution control/wastewater treatment facilities, but which are not associated with treating new types of influent pollutants or to increase the capacity of the facility, do not require a permit.

In addition, under 327 Indiana Administrative Code (IAC) 3-2-4(1-7), a wastewater construction permit is not required for the construction of:

1. Storm sewers transporting only surface run off,
2. Single-family dwelling connections to existing sanitary sewers, or
3. Sewers which connect multi-unit residential, commercial, or industrial buildings that do not discharge toxic substances or pollutants incompatible with the system, or incapable of being treated to an acceptable quality,
4. Approved commercial or residential septic absorption field systems,
5. Confined feeding operations for animal production,
6. On-site storage lagoons at land application sites,
7. Ground water remediation systems utilizing either carbon absorption or air stripping as the mode of treatment, or
8. Wells for the disposal of salt or sulfur-bearing water and waste liquids if such disposal is pursuant to a valid permit issued by the Indiana Department of Natural Resources or EPA.

Some of the things an applicant must do to comply with the requirements of IDEM's Wastewater Facilities Construction Permit program include (but are not limited to):

- < Submit a complete application with a set of construction plans (Non-industrial projects must be stamped and signed on each page by a professional engineer) 90 days (or at least 60 days) prior to the start of construction,
- < Provide information on notifying affected persons or Potentially Impacted Parties (adjacent landowners, or those with proprietary or expressed interest),
- < List the receiving stream, or if discharging to a publicly owned treatment works,
- < Provide, if constructing an industrial pretreatment facility, a capacity/acceptance letter from the receiving POTW certifying that the proposed project is not expected to cause overloading or bypassing in the collection system from locations other than NPDES authorized discharge points, and that there is sufficient capacity in the treatment plant to adequately treat the flow,
- < Enclose application fees, if required (There is no charge for sewer projects, while fees for industrial wastewater treatment or pretreatment facilities range from \$250 to \$2,500).

Wastewater Permit Construction Fees

No fee is required for sewer projects. Meanwhile, governmental entities and non-profit

organizations are only required to pay \$50 for new or expanded wastewater treatment facilities. All other applicants pay:

New Wastewater Treatment (except industrial)	
Up to 500,000 GPD	\$1,250
Greater than 500,000 GPD	\$2,500
New Industrial Wastewater Treatment (including pretreatment)	
Up to 500,000 GPD for:	
Biological or Chemical treatment	\$1,250
Physical treatment	\$250
Greater than 500,000 GPD for:	
Biological or Chemical treatment	\$2,500
Physical treatment	\$500
Wastewater Treatment Plant expansion:	
Up to fifty percent (50%) design capacity:	
Up to 500,000 GPD	\$625
Greater than 500,000 GPD	\$1,250
Greater than fifty percent (50%) design capacity:	
Up to 500,000 GPD	\$1,250
Greater than 500,000 GPD	\$2,500

What to Expect

IDEM has 90 days to complete its review of Wastewater Facility Construction Permits. Sewer permits generally take 30-40 days, industrial pretreatment construction permits take 40 days, and treatment plant construction permits take 40-60 days. Meanwhile, applications for “as built” facilities initiate a referral to the Office of Enforcement.

There is no public comment period for a Wastewater Facility Construction Permit. However, like all IDEM-issued environmental permits, it may be appealed by any affected or interested party. The appeal must be filed with the Office of Environmental Adjudication within 18 days (15 days, plus 3 days for mail delivery) of a permit decision.

For Additional Information

To obtain additional information regarding Wastewater Facility Construction or to obtain an application form please call Don Worley at 317/232-5579 or visit the IDEM Internet Website at <http://www.in.gov/idem/water/permits/applications.html>. For more on Industrial Wastewater Pretreatment Permits see <http://www.IN.gov/idem/guides/permit/industrialmunicipal.html>.

Disclaimer

This permit guide is intended to provide background information which should be useful in

planning for a particular project that may require an environmental permit. It does not substitute for consultation with the appropriate regulatory agency and/or the appropriate rules or statute.